CINCAD SPACE SHUTTLE SUPPORT

AFTER-ACTION REPORT

ORBITAL FLIGHT TEST - 1

MAY 1981

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
ABSTRACT	- 111
INTRODUCTION	- 1
BACKGROUND	- 1
PURPOSE	- 1
DESCRIPTION	- i
SCOPE	- i
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	- 2
GENERAL	- 2
OPERATIONS PLAN	- 2
IMPLEMENTATION PLAN	- 3
TRAINING	- 3
EXERCISES	- 5
CREW SUPPORT	- 5
SOFTWARE SUPPORT	- 6
SENSOR SUPPORT	- 6
ASCC AND BCF SUPPORT	- 7
SATELLITE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM SUPPORT	- 7
COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT	- 8
SCC CROWD CONTROL	- 9
HISSILE HARRING SUPPORT	- 9
BADAR RESTRICTIONS	<u>- 9</u>
DATA FLOW BETWEEN SCC AND JSC	~ 10

CONTINGENCY SUPPORT	11
FUTURE SUPPORT RESPONSIBILITIES	11
NEGOTIATIONS FOR OFT-2 SUPPORT	12
CONCLUSIONS	12
RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTIONS	13
ATTACHMENTS	
A - REQUIRED SOFTWARE MODIFICATIONS	A-3
B - J-3ZS LETTER ON SENSOR SUPPORT AND RADAR RESTRICTIONS	B+1
DISTRIBUTION	16

ABSTRACT

This report documents the internal deficiencies encountered in providing ADCOM support to NASA for the first Orbital Flight Test. Areas covered include training, exercises, software support, sensor support, comm support, future support responsibilities, and negotiations for OFT-2 support. Specific actions with suggested OPRs are provided as an aid in providing support for future Shuttle flights. The report concludes that the ADCOM support provided for OFT-1 met or exceeded NASA requirements.

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

1. In December 1980, ADCOM/J-5 completed negotiations with NASA to provide support for the first flight of the Space Transportation System, Orbital Plight Test-1 (OFT-1). A formal requirements letter was signed and at that time responsibility for supporting OFT-1 was passed to ADCOM/J-3. ADCOM/J-3X was responsible for publishing a CINCAD OPLAN 90 days prior to the first flight and ADCOM/J-3Y was responsible for providing support to include publication of a detailed CINCAD Implementation Plan prior to the first flight.

PURPOSE

2. The purpose of this report is to formally document the ADCOM support provided for OFT-1 and to identify actions required prior to the next flight, OFT-2.

DESCRIPTION

3. ADCOM support to OFT-1 is described in general terms in CINCAD Space Shuttle Support OPLAN 3410-81, Mar 1981 (OPLAN). A detailed description of ADCOM support to include specific crew actions is contained in CINCAD Space Shuttle Support Implementation Plan 3410-81, Feb 1981 (IPLAN).

SCOPE

4. The scope of this report covers the initial negotiations of the requirements with NASA, the publication of the OPLAN and the IPLAN, the support provided during CFT-1 from 12 to 14 Apr 81, and the subsequent support provided for the post-flight analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

GENERAL.

5. The development and execution of ADCON support for OFT-1 was an evolutionary and learning process which will be discussed in detail in the following sections. It is important to remember that the primary purpose of this report is to identify actions and procedures to be taken to prepare for OFT-2, not, through hindsight, to identify. shortcomings in the development of the support provided for OFT-1. The fundamental concept of operations was to use operational SPADOC crews to provide support to NASA rather than using a "tiger team" concept. Without exception, from NASA's viewpoint, the ADCON support provided throughout the 54% hour flight of the Columbia by the SPADOC crews was flawless.

OPERATIONS PLAN (OPLAN)

6. The support required for OFT-1 consisted of providing timely Computation of Miss Between Orbits (COMBO), Tracking and Impact Prediction (TIP) of the External Tank (ET) and the Orbiter Vehicle (OV), and backup Early Orbit Determination (EODET). The OPLAN was satisfactory in describing these actions and assigning responsibilities to insure proper preparation to provide this support. Since the mission profile for OFT-2 will be very similar to that of OFT-1, no changes to the OPLAN are anticipated. There was, however, difficulty encountered in the timely publication of the OPLAN. (The OPLAN was distributed approximately one week prior to OFT-1.) Recommend that any future changes to the OPLAN be published and distributed as scon as possible prior to the affected flight.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (IPLAN)

7. The IPLAN was published and distributed approximately 60 days prior to OFT-1. It contained a detailed chronological sequence of events and crew actions, a list of responsibilities by agency and crew position, and a series of contingency checklists. The format of the IPLAN was satisfactory and should be followed for future flights. A new IPLAN should be published following a similar format as soon as the mission profile for OFT-2 is firm and the OFT-2 requirements have been negotiated. This plan should then be distributed to appropriate agencies within ADCOM, to all sensors involved, to HQ SAC, to DDMS, to NASA Centers, and one copy to each SPADOC crew member. Since this plan affects only ADCOM support, it is necessary to coordinate the plan with agencies only within ADCOM. Specifically, the IPLAN should be written by J-3Y, coordinated with J-5D, J-5C, J-5Y, J-36, J-3F, J-3Z, J-3X, J-3J, J-3T, J-3V and J-31A through E, and approved by J-31 for publication. A separate IPLAN will be published for each of the Orbital Flight Tests (OFT-1 through OFT-5) and then a generic form of this plan will be published as an annex to the OPLAN. For subsequent operational flights of the Space Transportation System (STS), this generic implementation plan will serve as a guide to ADCOM crews.

TRAINING

8. Prior to OFT-1 all crews participated in ADCOM simulated OFT-1 mission exercises. There were two OFT-1 mission scenarios developed. First, a normal mission with no contingencies and, second, a scenario with an ET overspeed contingency. Each crew participated at least once in each scenario. Additionally, ADCOM was a scripted player in

two NASA-directed full-minsion simulations. Prior to OFT-1 all crews were evaluated and cortified operationally ready. Four main areas need to be emphasized in future crew training in preparation for OFT-2

a. First, additional training is necessary in receiving data from the Johnson Space Center (JSC).

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It was very

apparent during OFT-1 that one crew had practiced this procedure extensively and was well prepared. Other crews, however, had difficulty receiving and manipulating these data.

- b. Second, crews need practice in communicating with NASA both over the voice line and the Data Speed 40 Teletype. Extensive practice using these systems should be incorporated in crew training immediately.
- c. Third, some crew members had only a cursory knowledge of the actions required by the IPLAN. It appeared that individual crew knowledge of the OFT-1 profile and required SCC actions was a function of the leadership provided by the Space Surveillance Controller, rather than by any standards established by J-3T and J-3V. For future Shuttle support, it is vital that J-3T, J-3V, and the Command Directors set high standards of performance and insist that the crews meet those standards.
- d. Finally, it would be helpful if all crew members were given a briefing of the total support provided to NASA by all agencies. This briefing would explain the role and scope of NASA sensors, ARIS

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support, DDMS support, ESMC support, and ADCOM support. Recommend J-3T develop an overview Shuttle support briefing and include it in all training for MW, CP, and SPADOC crew personnel.

It is important for future Shuttle flights that personnel from J-3Y, J-3T, and J-3V work closely together to insure that the crews are trained and evaluated on the most current shuttle mission profile with the most current procedures.

EXERCISES

9. After the crew training program has been updated with the recommendations suggested in paragraph 8 above, shuttle support activities should be included in routine in-house exercises within the CP, SPADOG, MNC, and the SCC. These exercises should be conducted at least once a week. In add.tion, ADCOM should be a player in as many NASA mission exercises as possible.

CREW SUPPORT

10. The results of ADCOM suppor: to OFT-1 validates the concept to use unaugmented crews to support shuttle operations. Although there were times during the 54½ hour flight when day-staff personnel provided guidance, it was clear that the operational crews are capable of providing the necessary support. Additional training is necessary (para 8) and changes must be made to the 427M software (para 11), but there will be no reason to augment the crews as Shuttle flights become more routine. For the Orbital Flight Test phase (OFT-1 through OFT-5), however, it is advisable to augment the SPADOC crews with qualified personnel from J-3Y during critical phases of each OFT flight. Once this phase is completed and a generic implementation

plan is added to the OPLAN (para 7), then augmentees should no longer be necessary. Development of separate crew checklists to support Shuttle flights is not recommended at this time. For the next four flights, the IPLAN will serve as a guide to crews of the sequence of events and any contingency actions. Actions listed in the IPLAN are already established as routine procedures for the crew.

SOPTWARE SUPPORT :

OFT-1. These deficiencies were overcome by workarounds but resulted in unnecessary delays in processing data and a high-level of operator frustration. It became apparent during OFT-1 that ADCOM would experience difficulty in processing data and providing contingency support to any quick-reaction NASA requirements during a Shuttle anomaly. Nine PMRs and two DRs have been submitted to correct these deficiencies (see Atch A). It is imperative that these PMRs and DRs are completed prior to OFT-2.

SENSOR SUPPORT

12. Support by the SPADATS sensors during OFT-1 was commendable. Sixteen element sets were published from SPADATS observations. Two problems, however, were identified during the flight. First, observations from NAVSPASUR for the OFT-1 (object 12399) were not processed by the 427M system. Second, although sensors were tasked to obtain only three data points on each pass, this tasking was exceeded frequently. Since NASA was concerned with potential electromagnetic interference (EMI) from SPADATS sensors, this additional tracking is of concern. J-32 is currently working both these problems (see Atch-B). These problems should be corrected prior to OFT-2.

ASCC AND BCF SUPPORT

(ASCC) at Eglin APS and the HAVSPASUR Backup Computation Facility (BCP) at Dahlgren, VA, consisted of running in parallel operations throughout the duration of OFT-1. Both facilities provided shadow COMBO and TIP support throughout OFT-1 and forwarded the outputs from these programs to the SCC. The BCP provided primary computational backup support and the ASCC provided primary command and control backup support of For OFT-1, the ECC remained fully operational and no backup support was required. No problems were encountered in the implementation of parallel operations with the ASCC and the BCF. A complete analysis of the COMBO and TIP support provided by the ASCC and the BCF is currently being conducted by J-36. A separate formal report documenting these results will be published by J-36 by 15 Jun 81. 1953

SATELLITE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM (SEWS) SUPPORT

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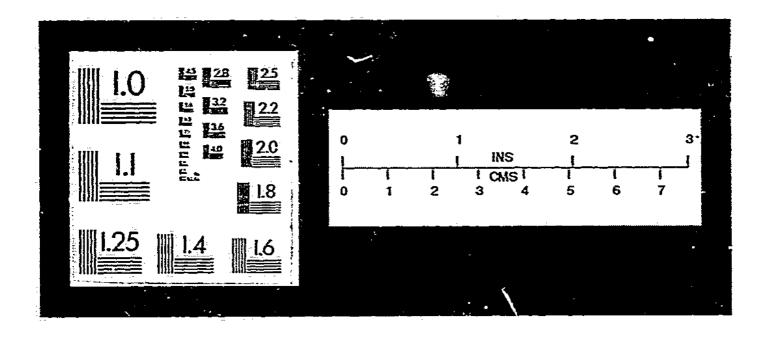
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COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT

15. Comministions support consisted of the following circuits between the SCC and JSC: 65

The voice circuit was designed to have a monitor capability of the MASA Plight Director, Cap Comp, and Flight Dynamics loops; however, this feature did not work. A squark box was installed over the Orbital Analyst Leader's console so that SCC personnel could monitor the voice circuit. The primary problem with the shout down circuit was the lack of reliable responser it was easy for the MASA craw personnel to turn down the volume during peak periods and then subsequently forget to turn it back up. This action rendered the circuit effectively inoperative from the SCC end. In addition, MASA personnel were unfamiliar with the DS and frequently were unable to transmit over this circuit. For future flights, J-3Y has requested the following changes to the current come supports:

- a. Change the shout down voice circuit to a ring down eigenit keeping the SCC squark box.
- b. Add the JSC ring down circuit to the SST and SOT consoles in the SCC (keep the current connections to the OAL, SSC, and SVO consoles).
 - c. Install a separate, dedicated, zonitor-only telephone

Dynamics and Comm/New sensols: at JSC.

SCC CROMP CONTROL

16. Just prior to lawnch, the SCC door look combination was changed and a notice was posted limiting access to personnel discortly inwashed with Shuttle support. Since the Launch occurred on a weekend,
creek control was not a problem until the reentry on 14 April. The
difficulty was that there was no accessible television monitor available to watch the coverage of the reentry other than in the SCC.
Supervisors were rejuctant to term people away from this historic
event, even though the SCC became a little overcrowded. For future
flights, recommend that TV monitors be made available in the dining
hall or some other accessible location within the SCMC.

MISSILE WARNING SUPPORT

17. The Missile Marning craw provided the communications link between the SCC and the SERS sites. This arrangement was satisfactory and should continue for future flights. The reentry of the Orbiter Vehicle generated, the appropriate response from the Missile Marning network and was handled according to routine procedures. No changes to these procedures are required for subsequent Shuttle flights.

RADAR RESTRICTIONS

- 18. Shortly prior to the OFT-1 flight, MASA imposed the following radar restrictions:
- a. No tracking with the Eglin phased-array radar during launch or resitry.

- b. No tracking with 55 | Xwajalein, Millstone or Hayatack radars.
- c. No dual-face tracking with the PAVE PANS phased-array radars.

Since the launch and resulty were not in Eglin's coverage and the software in PAVE PAWS procludes dual-face tracking, the only impact of this restriction was to limit 65 from providing BODET and normal SPADATS tracking (Kwajalein, Millstone and Maystack are not normally used in the SPADATS network). The Orbiter was catalogued as SCC Object 12399 and 16 elements were published. There were no problems encountered in maintaining the Orbiter through sole use of SCC observations. The actual validity and impact of the NASA-imposed radar restriction is currently being worked by J-32 (see Atch 5).

DATA FLOW BETWEEN SCC AND JSC

19. With the use of the AUTODIN circuit, data such as COMMO results, were passed directly to JSC through messages generated by the 427M system. On the other hand, data (primarily inter-range vectors) passed from JSC to the SCC were passed by voice and then manually entered into the 427M system. This form of data transmission is slow, awkward, and error-prone. MASA rejected the idea of passing data via the b\$ because it would entail at least two manual operations and physically running the data to another, distant location. Attempts should be made with NASA to automate the transmission of this data computer-to-computer via AUTODIN. Considering the number of planned STS flights, this is the only practical long

term solution to the problem. For OFT-2, every effort should be made to expedite the flow of data from JSC to the SCC.

CONTINGENCY SUPPORT

20. The only contingency that arese during OFT-1 was not covered in the IPLAM, however, orew response was satisfactory. MASA, through OSD, requested special empical support by Air Force consors. An overseas sensor was recalled by the SCC to provide this support. Eglin was tasked to obtain at least 12 obs-on the next OV pass to insure that an accurate element set was passed to the appropriate sensors. This contingency was handled very well by the SCC crew and one day-staff augmentse. It could have been also accomplished by the SCC crew alone.

FUTURE SUPPORT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 21. One of the problems encountered in providing support to MASA for OFT-1 was a fragmentation and a lack of definition of responsibilities during the initial phases of developing this support. The result was fraquent and duplicating communications with MASA officials and other agencies. To correct this problem, J-37, J-32 and J-5D have agreed to the following division of responsibilities for OFT-2:
- a. J-5D will be the primary OPR for OFT-2 until completion of the required planning actions. As such, J-5D will set up the necessary meetings with JSC to negotiate the requirements for OFT-2. Representatives from J-3Z and J-3Y will attend this meeting. After completion of the required planning actions J-5D will be kept tightly in the loop during all phases of ADCON support for OFT-2 to ensure J-5 continuity throughout the STS program.

- b. J-39 will become primary OFR upon completion of required planning actions and formal transfer of responsibility from J-5 to J-3. J-39 will publish a new IPLAM, chair an OFT-2 Support Morking Group, and be responsible for all direct communications and interfaces with NASA and FTD.
- c. J-38 will be responsible for all communications and inter-Zeces with the sensors, the ASCC, the SCF, DDMS, and ESMC at Patrick

NECOTIATIONS FOR OFT-2 SUPFORT "

- 22. During the negotistions with JSC for ADCOM support for OFT-2, particular attention should be given to the following areas:
- a. A specific, validated need for imposed radar restrictions should be discussed and resolved as soon as possible. There is evidence that the initial restriction for OFT-1 was too conservative. J-32 is currently working this problem.
- b. All negotiated support requirements should be validated against the actual mission profile. (For OFT-1, it was questionable if EODET support could have been provided prior to EASA rev 2, even if Divarbakir had been allowed to track.)
- c. Segotiations should include discussions of speeding the data flow from JSC to the SCC, improving the voice come circuits, and requirements for post-mission analysis (specifically, requirements to analyse the ST reentry).

CONCLUSIONS.

23. ADCOM support provided to JSC for OFT-1 met or exceeded all the requirements requested by NASA. The concept of providing the support as a routine crew function was validated. Support for the remaining Orbital Flight Tests (LFT-2 through OFT-5) should follow the same scenario as that provided for OFT-1.

RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTIONS

- 24. The following summary of recommendations and actions is provided to mid-in preparation for OFT-2. Suggested OFRs are added to facilitate completion of the actions. Paragraph references are made to body of the report for a more detailed discussion. Recommendations are made sequentially as they appear in the report, rather than by priority.
 - a. Changes to OPLAN should be timely (para 6): J-3X.
 - b. Format of IPLAN should be kept (para 7): J-3Y.
- c. New IPLAN should be published for each Orbital Flight Test (para 7): J-3Y.
- d. Each IPLAN should be coordinated with agencies within ADCON (para 7): J-37.
- e." A generic IPLAN should be incorporated as snnex to OFLAN for flights subsequent to OFT-5 (pars 7): J-3Y, J-3X.
- f. Additional training required in receiving realtime data from JSC (pers 3a): J-3T.
 - g. Additional training required on voice procedures and b5 [use (para 8b): J-3T.
- h. Crew:members must be required to know material in IPLAH (para 8c): J-3T; J-3V, J-3lA through E.
 - i. Overview Shuttle support briefing required (pers 8d): J-3T.
- j. In-house exercises of Shuttle support for CP, New, SPARC, and SCC crews necessary (para 9): J-37.
- k. ADCON should play in all NASA mission exercises (para 9): J-3Y, J-3Y.

- 2; \$7ADOC crews should be sugmented for each flight through OFT-5 (para 10): J-3Y.
- m. No orew augmentation required for operation Shuttle flights subsequent to OFT-5 (para 10): no action.
- n. Bevelopment of esparate crew checklists for Shuttle sup-
- o. Software modifications identified in Atch & should be modified prior to OFT-2 (para 11): J-3Y, J-3P, J-6S.
- p. Sensor problems of exceeding tasking must be corrected (para 12): J-3E.
- q. Problem of non-processing of MAVSPASUR obs for Off-1 must be corrected (pers 12): J-33.
- r. A complete analysis of COMBO and TIP programs of the SCC, the ASCC and the BCF should be completed and documented (para 13):
- s. SEES special support capability should be upgraded (para 14): J-3FD.
- t. Change shout down circuit to ring down circuit (para 15a):
- u. Add the JSC ring down circuit to SST and SOT conscles (para 15b): J-3Y, J-6CT.
 - v. Install separate monitor circuit (para 15c): J-3Y, J-6CT.
- w. Nake TV monitors available to NCNC personnel during Shuttle operations (para 16): J-JY.
- x. No changes to M procedures necessary for Shuttle operations (para 17); no action.
- y. Resolve the NASA-imposed radar restrictions prior to OFT-2 (para 18c and para 22a): J-32.

- g. Expedite the flow of data from JSC to the SCC (para 19): J-3Y.
 - aa. J-3Y is primary OPR for OFT-2 (pera 21a): J-3Y.
- bb. J-3Y is responsible for all interface with WASA and PTD (para 21a): 5-3Y.
- oc. J-31 is responsible for all interface with sensors. ASCC, SCT, Diss, and SSEC (para 21b): J-31.
- dd. J-5D will set up first meeting with JSC for OFT-2 (para 21c): J-5D.
- ee. Validate all support requirements (para 27b): J-SD, J-3Y, J-3E.
- ff. Include speeding data flow, improving cosms, and specific post-mission analysis in initial negotiations for OFT-2 support (page 22c): J-5D, J-3Y, J-3Z.

ATTACIMENT

REQUERED SOFTWARE MODIFICATIONS

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ATTACHMENT B

J-318 LETTER ON SENSOR

SUPPORT AND BADAR RESTRICTIONS

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HORTH AMERICAN AIR SEPENSE COMMAND



DETAL MENT

28 April 1981

man 378-1 Report Impute

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- 1. A post-Shuttle review meeting has revealed that there are several quastions regarding SPADATS sensor suggest of STS-1.
- a. Sensors sporadically exceeded NO NORM tasking instructions. The following messages specifically requested that sensors do not exceed the levied tasking: HQ MORAD/J-3Y1E DTG 11/2345% Apr \$1. HQ NORAD/J-3% DTG 08/1300% Apr \$1, NQ SAC/SYM DTG 08/2000% Apr \$1. HORAD tasking was 2H (three data points on all passes) for Ascension and Antigme; and 2D (three data points on all passes) for Otis, Beale, and Eglin.
- (1) 20MMS exceeded tasking on three out of four passes, twice by as much as 18 observations. The FFS-85 provided 21 observation a pass for which SCC requested only 12-15 obs.
 - (2) Otis exceeded tasking on five out of tan passes.
- (a) Twice Otis tracked the Shuttle as & UCT and obtained 30 obs both times.
- (b) Three of the times Otis tracked the Shuttle as a known object, tasking was exceeded by at least three observations.
 - (3) Reals exceeded tasking on four out of 11 passes
- (a) Beale tracked the Shuttle as a UCT three times and obtained 14, 17, and 17 obs, respontively.
- (b) On one track tryged as a known object, Beals obtained 18 observations.
- (4) Antiqua exceeded ROAD tasking on three out of nine passes. This is not of major concern since Antiqua tasking is ultimately the responsibility of ETA.
- (5) M/J-31C will research the reason why the above sensors exceeded NORAD tasking instructions.
- b. Unfamiliarity with a 2000S procedure which is used during manned space launches resulted in SCC confusion during lift-off. The F2S-85 has routinely restricted radar transmission from-T-20 seconds through T+70 seconds. This is an FFS-85 safety precaution

ageinst possible interference with the launch vehicle telemetry during lift-off. This procedure is not a checklist item nor is it included in 2018/8 Operating Instructions. 90 seconds of downtime does not degrade the FFS-89 system. Downtime must exceed two minutes to constitute redtime.

- (1) The ASCC received approval from Missile Waxning at 12/11558 Apr 31 for 90 seconds of downtime. HM initials are DF or DG.
- (2) ASCC informally coordinated this precedure on 10 April ever the TTY with the mid shift SCC ESC and 3800 on duty.
- (3) N/J-3EC will ensure 20M68 manned launch procedures allow flexibility for Shuttle launches and do not involve unnecessary downtime:
 - C. PARE PARS tracked the Shuttle as a UCT.
- (1) Otis tracked the Shuttle as a UCT twice. On 104/ 10293 Otis obtained 30 observations, all tagged as UCT 90192 and 90193. The 20th co was tagged correctly as 12399.
- (2) Beale tracked the Shuttle as a UCT three times. In two sets of UCT observations the Shuttle was correctly tagged once. This was the last ob of each set.
- (3) M/J-32C will research the reasons why the Shuttle was intermittently tracked as a UCT and why some UCT tracks had a correct object number tag.
- d. MAVSPASUR observations were not received at the SCC until they were retransmitted via FLASH precedence upon SCC request.
 - (1) The Shuttle was initially tracked as a UCT. WAVSPASUR did a consolition and manually retagged the obs with 12399 prior to transmission to ECC. The manual retag required a subsequent change to the character value. This was not done which resulted in a character water. Somewich into this problem continues.
 - (2) MAI-170 will continue coordination with MAVSPASOR to
 - 2. M/3-1SC is preparing a package to MASA which will include the following:
 - a. An SCC PASCHED in order that MASA can determine if MORAD sensor radiation may have affected the Shuttle.
 - b. Radiation analysis done by 201945 (201945 Ressage DTG . 02/2225Z Apr 81), SAI, and Colorado Springs General Electric on SPADATS radars for NASA consideration to determine which sensors may be utilized during future Shuttle missions.

who was surely to the surely and

- e. A query regarding the possibility of scheduling tests to measure the effect, if any, of suspect MORAD sensors on a future Shuttle flight.
- 3. Direct questions to Lt Minkle, Chieles extension 6277.

MACPHINELE, ILE, DEAP JOAN B. P. EINELE, ILE, DEAP Space Sym Interface Officer

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